WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing method comprising:

a viewpoint position/sight line direction determination step of determining a viewpoint position and a sight line direction on a map;

an annotation display position determination step of determining an annotation display position of an object, from the position of said object on the map determined based on observation directions of said object in plural panoramic images, the viewpoint position, and the sight line direction; and

a synthesis step of synthesizing an annotation image to the annotation display position on an actually taken image corresponding to the viewpoint position.

2. An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the map is a two-dimensional map image.

3. An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said annotation display position determination step determines the annotation display position of the panoramic image located between said plural panoramic images, by using the determined position of the object on the map.

4. An information processing method according to Claim 3, wherein the determined annotation display position can be manually adjusted.

5. An information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein

a graphical user interface including a map display portion and a panoramic image display portion is provided,

said plural panoramic images are selected by using the map display portion, and

the observation direction of the object is designated on the selected panoramic image displayed on the panoramic image display portion.

6. A control program for causing a computer to execute a information processing method comprising:

a viewpoint position/sight line direction determination step of determining a viewpoint position and a sight line direction on a map;

an annotation display position determination step of determining an annotation display position of an object, from the position of said object on the map determined based on observation directions of said object in plural panoramic images, the viewpoint position, and the sight line direction; and

a synthesis step of synthesizing an annotation

image to the annotation display position on an actually taken image corresponding to the viewpoint position.

7. An information processing method, used in an image reproduction apparatus for achieving walk-through in a virtual space represented by using an actually taken image, of synthesizing an annotation image to the actually taken image, said method comprising the steps of:

setting an annotation display position in each of the plural actually taken images;

calculating an annotation display position to another actually taken image located between the plural actually taken images, by using the annotation display positions respectively set in the plural actually taken images; and

synthesizing the annotation image to the actually taken image on the basis of the calculated annotation display position.

8. An information processing method according to Claim 7, wherein

the setting of the annotation display position in each of the plural actually taken images is performed according to a user's manual instruction, and

the calculated annotation display position can be adjusted based on a user's manual instruction.

9. An information processing method according to Claim 7, wherein the annotation display position to said another actually taken image is calculated by performing interpolation to the annotation display position set in each of the plural actually taken images.

10. An information processing method according to Claim 9, wherein

the interpolation is non-linear interpolation, and

from among plural non-linear curves previously held, the non-linear curve is determined based on the annotation position of the object in each of the plural actually taken images.

11. A control program for causing a computer to execute a information processing method, used in an image reproduction apparatus for achieving walk-through in a virtual space represented by using an actually taken image, of synthesizing an annotation image to the actually taken image, said method comprising the steps of:

setting an annotation display position in each

of the plural actually taken images;

calculating an annotation display position to another actually taken image located between the plural actually taken images, by using the annotation display positions respectively set in the plural actually taken images; and

synthesizing the annotation image to the actually taken image on the basis of the calculated annotation display position.

12. An image reproduction apparatus comprising:

a viewpoint position/sight line direction determination unit, adapted to determine a viewpoint position and a sight line direction on a map;

an annotation display position determination unit, adapted to determine an annotation display position of an object from the position of said object on the map determined based on observation directions of said object in plural panoramic images, the viewpoint position, and the sight line direction; and

an image reproduction control unit, adapted to synthesize an annotation image to the annotation display position on an actually taken image corresponding to the viewpoint position.